

## **FISCAL NOTE**

### **HB 2424 - SB 2483**

March 17, 2004

#### **SUMMARY OF BILL:**

- Creates a new right of action, relative to persons with disabilities, under the Human Rights Law, by prohibiting the state and local governments from excluding individuals with disabilities from their services, programs or activities.
- Provides no later than July 1, 2005, the Human Rights Commission shall promulgate regulations in an accessible format that implement this act in accordance with the Human Rights Law, and authorizes the commission to investigate, and if necessary, remedy violations under the Commission's current powers pursuant to the Tennessee Human Rights Act.

#### **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditures - Exceeds \$100,000**


**Increase Local Govt. Expenditures - Exceeds \$1,000,000**

Estimate assumes:

- an increase in expenditures to the Human Rights Commission to hire additional investigative and legal staff. Because the issue of building accessibility necessarily involves architectural standards and analysis, the commission would need access to professional architectural services, with the amount dependent on the number of complaints received. Furthermore, if the United States Supreme Court determines in Tennessee v. Lane, that citizens cannot sue the state for ADA Title II violations, the volume of complaints would presumably increase to seek relief.
- an increase in local government expenditures to comply with the provisions of this bill by renovating the buildings in which they are provided or risk litigation and resulting monetary damages.

#### **CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director